

2 THE TIMES.

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THE TIMES COMPANY,
Richmond, Va.

TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1890.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

As the summer advances, the accidents on our Virginia railroads seem only to increase in number. So far the loss of life has not been great, but the accidents themselves are occurring with such alarming frequency as to create a general feeling of insecurity among all who have occasion to travel, especially over certain lines. There is no real excuse for these accidents. The railroads themselves can least afford to suffer the damage which directly and indirectly they are inflicting upon themselves by their own imprudence and carelessness.

The scenes of the larger proportion of the more recent accidents have been on the Norfolk and Western and the James River division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad; these roads being exposed to unusual risks, on account of the numerous coal trains that are brought over them every day in either direction, both lines having only single tracks. The Norfolk and Western Company is now engaged in constructing a double track on the greater portion of its road, and this must certainly reduce the number of accidents. The construction of this double track is a step demanded by the interests of the railroad as well as the interests of the public.

The Richmond and Alleghany division has relieved the main track of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, but at the same time, this has only increased its own chance of being the scene of accidents from the passing to and fro of numerous coal trains. The passage of such trains should only encourage a spirit of greater caution and prudence in those who have the road in charge.

The public are beginning to regard the constant recurrence of accidents on these different lines with an impatience that will be satisfied with nothing less than such a change in their methods as will ensure the highest degree of safety both to employees and travelers.

GENERAL FREMONT.

The death of John C. Fremont removes forever from the view the most picturesque figure, in some respects, in the history of the United States during the course of the last fifty years. His name will be always memorable in the annals of this country, first, for contending between the Rockies and the Pacific ocean, and, secondly, as the first candidate of the Republican party, which four years afterward was to be successful in the person of Abraham Lincoln, and which was to maintain its supremacy, with an interval of four years only, for thirty years.

It is in the first character, however, that Fremont will make the strongest appeal to historic interest, for his Presidential candidacy ended in a defeat almost as disastrous as his brief career as a soldier in the civil war. It is as a path-finder that he will go down to posterity. His numerous journeys up and down the section of country lying in the shadow of the Rocky mountains, and extending as far as the Sierra Nevada, will always have an air of romance which invests but few explorations that have been made on this continent. The mighty forests through which he passed, the grassy plains dotted with buffalo and antelope, the troops of Indians, the native villages, the chains of stupendous mountains, with their wildly magnificent scenery, all constitute a strange and varied background for the description of the different adventures in war and chase which the path-finder has given in his account of his expeditions.

The political episode in Fremont's life, for he was not only a Republican candidate for the Presidency, but also, at one time, a member of the United States Senate, seems to be entirely incongruous with the impressions formed of him as a great explorer, accustomed to a savage country and to strange scenes far beyond the utmost verge of civilization. It is most appropriate that his name should have been given to one of the loftiest peaks of the Rockies. As long as the full record of that part of the United States shall be preserved he will be remembered, for its early history is identified with his career. It is not improbable that in the future a veil will be drawn over the later scenes of his life. He will be remembered only as an explorer and a pathfinder. He will be forgotten as a soldier and a politician.

ENGLAND'S COAL SUPPLY.

(Lynn (Mass.) Bee.)

It would be well for the New York politicians to give heed to Representative Hemphill's admonition to his Republican brethren in the House, that Northern coal miners have gained 154,521, showing that the population of the country outside of Reading has fallen of 2,501.

It is not probable that all the young men of the country have forsaken the farms to go to the cities. The number of the young men in the South has been enormous. The decrease in the agricultural population of the country is not its entire cause, the people probably shift off now; but it remains to be seen whether the hands and bodies of the people will be better employed if Lord Salisbury continues his struggle than if he throws up the sponge and goes to the country.

SHIRTING POPULATION.

(Philadelphia Times.)

Bucks county has gained 12,801 in population since 1870, and the city of Philadelphia has gained 154,521, showing that the population of the country outside of Reading has fallen of 2,501.

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SALVATION ARMY.

(New Orleans States.)

If the concurrent resolution of Congress man Williams, of Ohio, to have both houses of Congress adjourn on the last day of June until next session, be adopted, it will prevent an adjournment as long as there is a chance to pass the bill. The fate of the measure, however, will be settled so far as the session is concerned by the casting vote. Reporters who were ex-

pected to vote in favor of the bill, however,

Suppressed by the Police.

Stevenson, the anarchist, has been published for memoirs in the United States.

He is a man, who, as this his disclosure, are suffering just as keenly in the great Commonwealth of Penn-

sylvania as in any State of the Union, whom the President is now invoking as those whom he desires to "educate more thoroughly as to what is necessary for their maintenance and life."

This general phrase is so unmeaning as to be difficult not to detect the hypocrisy of the spirit under the belief that it is manifest absurdity would not be detected by the class addressed, inasmuch as they had quietly allowed themselves to be deceived by similar phrases for so great a length of time. If the process which President Harrison describes as "education of the farming classes" continues very much longer, so far from being conducive to their "maintenance and life," it is perfectly evident that there will be neither "maintenance nor life" among them to be administered to. The patience and forbearance of these classes under circumstances most destructive to their interests, and their adherence in part to the Republican party in spite of its fatal policy, reminds us most forcibly of the lamb described by the Pope, which quietly lies the hand of the slaughter at the very moment that his hand is raised to shed its innocent blood.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

There can be little doubt that so far as the result of the reassessment in the State at large is known, it has, in many respects, given occasion to considerable surprise. That the value of property should have declined to such a marked degree in certain counties, while at the very worst, there was apparently no reason why it should not have held its own, is in itself sufficient to cause this surprise, but the feeling was further increased when it was found that property had risen in value in many counties, in which it was confidently, and upon the most reasonable grounds, expected to fall in value. There is no question but that the members of the society were to be made acquainted—the main object was to dislodge the minds of the people of the North with regard to the situation in the South, and the men who have selected here, and who have become Germans by adoption, have long been impatient over the rumors, false reports, and slanders put in circulation by the partisan editors and orators. Having identified themselves with Georgia and the material welfare of this section, they naturally feel an interest in dislodging the Northern mind of the false impressions that have resulted from various campaigns of the press, and in correcting the thoughts of one false report in circulation about the South.

Many of the most active members of the Northern Society are Republicans, but they perceive that it is not only a bad policy, but bad politics to make political slanders, and they do not wish to be identified with the party which has struck them. They are, however, in a good neighborhood, and perfectly equipped to redress the wrongs of the people.

THE SHIRTMAKERS.

(One of the latest moves on foot by the girls is the gathering together of scattered remnants of the shirtmakers' union. Four years ago the girls in this trade had one of the strongest local assemblies connected with District Assembly No. 49, Knights of Labor.)

They work just as hard as the men, and harder in many instances, at the very same class of work, but they must be contented with smaller wages just because they are women. The working women and girls have had a hard time of it all around, and in many instances deserve to be landed, and helped along; but men step in with his grievances, and with a voice that drowns out everything in the vicinity shouts them out, the papers take him up and the public soon know all about it.

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